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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 02787 100617Z

15
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W
---------- 051852
O 100518Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1700

S E C R E T MANILA 2787

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TEXT

FFOR THE SECRETARY FROM SULLIVAN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A) (SAQQAF, OMAR), SA, US
SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR SAUDI ARABIAN MINISTER OF STATE
VISITING MANILA

REF: STATE 047943

1. I DELIVERED YOUR LETTER TO MINISTER SAQQAF MORNING MARCH 10. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ITS CONTENTS AND WENT ON TO ASK THAT I EXPRESS TO YOU HIS APPRECIATION FOR ALL THE ACTIONS YOU HAVE BEEN TAKING IN THE MEDIATION OF THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM.

2. HE SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON. HE PLANS TO GO TO WASHINGTON WHEN THE EMBARGO IS LIFTED. HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN THE EMBARGO ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN, BUT HOPED IT WOULD BE "TODAY OR TOMORROW." ACCORDING TO HIS LATEST INFORMATION, ALGERIA IS NOW THE PRINCIPAL STUMBLING BLOCK.

3. WHEN HE COMES TO THE UNITED STATES, SAQQAF SAID HE HOPES TO BE ABLE TO GIVE THE ADMINISTRATION CREDIT FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE IN HIS PART OF THE WORLD. IF IT SUCCEEDS, IT WOULD "FULLY DESERVE THE NOBEL PRIZE,"
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AND SHOULD HELP STRENGTHEN THE ADMINISTRATION, WHICH IS

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BEING "BADLY WEAKENED" BY ATTACKS AGAINST IT.

4. HE THEN PRODUCED A LETTER IN ARABIC WHICH HE ASKED IF I COULD SENT TO YOU. I SAID I COULD POUCH IT, BUT UNFORTUNATELY WOULD NEED TO BE SUPPLIED AN ENGLISH TRANS-LATION IF IT WAS TO BE SENT TELEGRAPHICALLY. HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE HIS STAFF PROVIDE A TRANSLATION AND WOULD GET IT TO ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS "NOTHING IMPORTANT."

5. SAQQAF, WHO HAD SLEPT UNTIL ELEVEN O'CLOCK THIS MORNING, SAID IT WAS FIRST GOOD REST HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO GET IN WEEKS. HE WENT ON WITH SOME ADMIRATION FOR YOUR PHYSICAL STAMINA AND HAD SOME KIND REMARKS ABOUT YOUR FRIENDSHIP.

6. I WILL SEND THE SUBSTANCE OF HIS REPLY TO AKINS, PLUS HIS COMMENTS ON OTHER MATTERS, IN MESSAGES WITH WIDER DISTRIBUTION THAN THIS.

7. RESPECTS AND REGARDS.
SULLIVAN

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Draft Date: 10 MAR 1974
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
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